

sides of a *pavonia* cocoon with a razor and glueing cellophane over the apertures. It would also be interesting to see whether any emergences took place among a dozen or more pupae after their cremasters had been snipped off, the pupae being replaced in the opened cocoons and these sealed again.

Does anybody know whether the double spiked cremaster of certain species which pupate in the ground plays a part in eclosion?

TWO NEW ABERRATIONS OF BRITISH BEETLES.

By HORACE DONISTHORPE, F.Z.S., F.R.E.S.

Cryptophagus dentatus, Hbst., ab. **flavus-clavatus**, n. ab.

This specimen agrees very well in size, structure, puncturation, and pubescence with the typical form, but the three-jointed club on both antennae is clear yellow in colour.

It came out of a piece of hawthorn stump from a hedge at Heston, Middlesex, on 7th May 1939. I kept pieces of the wood (and have still got them at the Museum), but no further specimens emerged; but a specimen of *Agriotes sbrinus*, Hbst., did so and larvae of *Hedobia imperialis*, L., are present (teste Blair). As it is such a striking looking insect and as the antennae are absolutely uniform, it seems to be worthy of a name. Type in coll. Donisthorpe in B.M.

Hydraena nigrita, Germ., ab. **pallida**, n. ab.

In the typical form the insect is jet black with red legs; but in *pallida* it is lighter or darker brown, the head being darker. Some specimens have the thorax lighter; but no black forms were found with *pallida*. *H. nigrita* is common in various streams in the Windsor Forest area, but the ab. only occurred in one stream. It was taken on 20th and 27th July and 1st August 1939, some 30 specimens having been taken. I thought at first it might be a different species as the puncturation of the head and thorax is perhaps a little more sparse, but Mr Balfour-Browne, junior, who kindly dissected a male, tells me that the genitalia of the two forms are identical. Type and cotypes in coll. Donisthorpe in B.M.

SOME ACULEATA OF EASTON.

T. FRED MARRINER.

Though I have not devoted much time to the especial search for Bees, etc., I find I have accumulated a fairly representative collection of the Order in this Easton area of Cumberland, and these may prove of interest in adding new localities for most of the species observed, and taken. Of the *Vespidae*, *Vespa vulgaris*, L., is too common in some parts but varies, and has been seldom seen in others. *V. germanica*, F., I have only come across once. *V. sylvestris*, Scop., is fairly common in every portion of the area, while *V. rufa*, L., like *V. germanica*, is scarce around Easton. I got two specimens of *Odynerus* (*Ancistrocerus*) *parietum*, L., in my garden in 1936, the only ones I have seen. *Halictus rubicundus*, Chr., has not been uncommon on some of our hedgebanks.